

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A disk apparatus comprising:

a defect detection unit configured to detect a defect of a disk;

5 a setting unit configured to set an actual recording area, where information can actually be recorded, of all recording areas of the disk on the basis of a defect detection result by the defect detection unit; and

10 a recording unit configured to record user information in the actual recording area set by the setting unit.

2. An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the defect detection unit detects the defect for
15 each predetermined area, and

the setting unit obtains recording performance for each predetermined area on the basis of the defect detection result by the defect detection unit, and sets an area which satisfies a predetermined recording
20 performance level in all the recording areas of the disk as the actual recording area where information can actually be recorded.

3. An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the defect detection unit detects the defect for
25 each predetermined area corresponding to a radial distance, and

the setting unit obtains recording performance for

each predetermined area on the basis of the defect
detection result by the defect detection unit, and sets
an area inside an innermost one of areas that do not
satisfy the predetermined recording performance level
5 in all the recording areas of the disk as the actual
recording area where information can actually be
recorded.

4. An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein
the defect detection unit detects a first defect,
10 which changes for every radial distance, for each
predetermined area corresponding to a radial distance
and detects a second defect common to the entire disk,
and

the setting unit obtains recording performance for
15 each predetermined area on the basis of the defect
detection result by the defect detection unit, and sets
an area inside an innermost one of areas that do not
satisfy a predetermined recording performance level in
all the recording areas of the disk as the actual
20 recording area where information can actually be
recorded.

5. An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein
when the user information has already been recorded in
an area other than the actual recording area of all the
25 recording areas of the disk, the setting unit sets the
disk as an unrecordable disk.

6. A disk processing method comprising:

detecting a defect of a disk; and
setting an actual recording area, where
information can actually be recorded, of all recording
areas of the disk on the basis of a defect detection
5 result.

7. A method according to claim 6, wherein
the defect is detected for each predetermined
area, and

recording performance is obtained for each
10 predetermined area on the basis of the defect detection
result, and an area that satisfies a predetermined
recording performance level in all the recording areas
of the disk is set as the actual recording area where
information can actually be recorded.

15 8. A method according to claim 6, wherein
the defect is detected for each predetermined area
corresponding to a radial distance, and

recording performance is obtained for each
predetermined area on the basis of the defect detection
20 result, and an area inside an innermost one of areas
that do not satisfy the predetermined recording
performance level in all the recording areas of the
disk is set as the actual recording area where
information can actually be recorded.

25 9. A method according to claim 6, wherein
a first defect that changes for every radial
distance is detected for each predetermined area

corresponding to a radial distance, and a second defect common to the entire disk is detected, and

recording performance is obtained for each predetermined area on the basis of the defect detection result, and an area inside an innermost one of areas that do not satisfy the predetermined recording performance level in all the recording areas of the disk is set as the actual recording area where information can actually be recorded.

10 10. A method according to claim 6, wherein when user information has already been recorded in an area other than the actual recording area of all the recording areas of the disk, the disk is set as an unrecordable disk.

15 11. An information recording medium comprising:
a plurality of ring-shaped information recording areas having different radial distances,
wherein on the basis of defect inspection for each information recording area, one or a plurality of
20 predetermined information recording areas of the information recording areas are set as actual recording areas where information can actually be recorded.

25 12. A medium according to claim 11, wherein recording performance for each information recording area is obtained on the basis of defect inspection for each information recording area, and one or a plurality of information recording areas which satisfy a

predetermined recording performance level in the information recording areas are set as actual recording areas where information can actually be recorded.

13. A medium according to claim 11, wherein
5 recording performance for each information recording area is obtained on the basis of defect inspection for each information recording area, and one or a plurality of information recording areas inside an innermost one of information recording areas that do not satisfy a
10 predetermined recording performance level in the information recording areas are set as actual recording areas where information can actually be recorded.

14. A medium according to claim 11, wherein
a first defect caused by the radial distance is
15 detected, and a second defect common to the entire medium is detected on the basis of defect inspection for each information recording area, and

on the basis of a defect detection result,
recording performance for each information recording
20 area is obtained, and one or a plurality of information recording areas inside an innermost one of information recording areas that do not satisfy a predetermined recording performance level in the information recording areas are set as actual recording areas where
25 information can actually be recorded.

15. A medium according to claim 11, wherein when user information has already been recorded in one or a

plurality of information recording areas which do not correspond to the actual recording areas, the medium is set as an unrecordable medium.